

**Task Force on Judicial Selection and Retention**  
Northern/Central Regional Office, Suite 300, Delta Room A  
27880 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, California

Monday, November 5, 2007  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

10:00 a.m.     Public comment:  
Public comments are invited during the 15-minute interval preceding the beginning of the task force meeting. Members of the public who wish to address the task force should submit a request of no more than two pages to the Commission on Impartial Courts at least four business days before the meeting. Please address requests as follows:

**Commission on Impartial Courts**  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102  
[impartialcourts@jud.ca.gov](mailto:impartialcourts@jud.ca.gov)  
Fax: 415-865-8795

10:15 a.m.     Consideration of issues involving selection of judges:

- Commission-based appointing system (“Merit selection”)
  - Pre-selection
  - Post-selection (“confirmation”)
  - Variations
- Whether there are “open” elections
- Avoiding partisan politics
- “Member of bar” or “practicing law;” active or inactive membership
- Citizenship requirement
- Residency requirement – post appointment and how defined

11:15 a.m.     Break

11:30 a.m.     Consideration of issues involving evaluation and screening of judges and judicial candidates:

- JNE commission
  - Current system
  - Release of evaluation upon announcement of appointment
- Official vs. unofficial evaluation
- Evaluation at time of initial appointment
- Evaluation at time of consideration of continuation in office
- Evaluation on non-judge declaring candidacy for judicial office
- Evaluation on for retention election, contested election, or both

- 12:30 p.m. Working lunch
- 1:30 p.m. Consideration of issues involving continuation in office:
- Length of term of office
  - Contestable election
  - Uncontested contestable election (on ballot)
  - Retention election
    - Expand to trial courts
    - Not on ballot unless triggered by what means
  - Time between appointment and first continuation election
  - Effect of evaluation on retention or contestable election
  - Appellate court elections every two years rather than every four years.
- 2:30 p.m. Break
- 2:45 p.m. Consideration of issues involving diversity:
- Race
  - Religion
  - Gender
  - Sexual orientation
  - Geography
  - Type of legal experience
  - Public or private practice
  - Political preference
  - Effect of 10 year practice requirement on diversity
- 3:45 p.m. Approval of minutes; next steps and next meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Adjournment